

# The Crossfield Chronicle

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## THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME

We just thought you'd like to see this picture of 18-year-old Joan Burque while she was out enjoying the sunshine the other day. Makes you want to get away from that stuffy old office, doesn't it?

### CROSSFIELD LOCAL NEWS

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Borchert, a son, on July 25th.

Mr. Albert Stralo, of Stratford, Ontario, is visiting with his brother, Bill Stralo.

Mrs. Kay Kotow has returned home from Red Deer last week.

Mrs. Margery Bania is attending a leaders' and teachers' camp at Kasota Beach.

Mrs. Walter Stewart and family spent last week-end visiting friends in the Sylvan Lake district.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Meliand spent a few days at Waterton Lakes.

### CPR OILBURNERS START WEST RUN

Last Friday the CPR passenger train for Calgary, headed by a big 2800-class Royal Hudson engine, pulled out of Winnipeg on time and started west.

With Friday's run western Canada's oil industry had a brand new market for its crude oil.

The Royal Hudson was the first type of engine out of 16 CPR locomotives to be converted to oil burners by 1950. Six months ago a similar program of conversion was started on 100 locomotives in southern B.C. and between Calgary and Edmonton.

Advantages of the oil burners: (1) no cinders and soot for passengers, (2) fewer refuelling stops along the line.

Man's first weapon in warfare was the slingshot.

### South Consumers Given Boost In Gas Rate

While people were pondering over the effects of Premier Ernie Manning's cautious gas export policy last week (see page 1) the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners okayed a boost in price for southern gas consumers.

Under an application from the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company rates were raised 68 cents for 20,000 cu. ft. of gas (amount needed to heat an average-size home for one winter month).

Increase was from \$5.50 for 20,000 to \$6.18 for the same amount. It became effective in July.

The boost was found necessary after the Royalties 0.1 Co. Ltd., which supplies the CWNG Co. from Turner Valley, was given an increase in well head prices.

Canadian Western supplies Calgary and communities along its pipeline extending from Fort Macleod (50 miles southwest of Medicine Hat), north to Bow Island and northwest to Calgary.

### VENETIANS BLIND TO SPEEDBOATS

Italy's famed canal-city of Venice is having traffic problems of its own these days.

The city's gondoliers, who ply the canals in their long canoe-like craft, have demanded that motorboats be banned from the St. Mark's Basin in the city.

Complaint was laid following a recent incident when a speeding motorboat slashed through a gondola, cut it in two and nearly drowned the seven occupants.

### LAKE BOAT TAKES OCEAN TRIP TO LAKE

Next week, a shallow-draft, diesel lake boat will chug out of Vancouver harbor and turn northward along the coast.

The little, brand-new boat will hug the coastline all the way around the tip of Alaska where it will turn east into the Arctic Ocean. At the delta of the Mackenzie River, the boat will start southward.

After its long trip upstream the boat will pull into the settlement of Hay River a short distance upstream from the shores of Great Slave Lake.

On September 1, if everything goes according to schedule, the new lake boat will carry the first load of passengers across Great Slave Lake to the booming mine centre of Yellowknife (pop. 3,000).

The new service, inaugurated by the Yellowknife Transportation Co. Ltd., will carry passengers from the terminus of the Grimshaw-Hay River highway across the lake to Yellowknife.

### CABINET CONSIDERS NEW CIVILIAN DEFENCE PLAN

This month the Dominion cabinet heard the first comprehensive plan for Canada's civil defence from co-ordinator of civil defence, Major-Gen. F. F. Worthington.

Recently returned from a tour of seven European countries, Gen. Worthington has set down a civil defence scheme for cabinet approval. Canada's policy will probably be a slow, observing preparation for the time being.

The general said every country he visited was making preparations to cope with mass air raids or atom attack. Traditionally neutral Sweden appears to have the best co-ordinated plan to date, he said.

## "Take It or Leave It" Is Alberta Gas Export Policy

The first statement on gas export policy came from Alberta's government last week just three weeks after the Social Crediters had handed over the gas and oil policy to the provincial cabinet.

In a prepared statement, issued in response to curious people who wanted to know what the government was going to do with the gas and oil, Alberta's campy Premier Manning set down a "take-it or leave it" policy on export.

Private companies could "take it" (i.e. export gas) if they sufficiently developed Alberta's natural gas resources to provide the province's consumers with enough gas.

They would have to "leave it" (i.e. leave it) if reserves were not found to be sufficient to supply local needs.

In other words gas export could take place within a matter of months or it could wait for as long as five years.

"We're not interested in individual groups," said the lanky premier. "There must be sufficient gas for the people of Alberta to warrant export."

Some idea of available reserves come from the Dinning Royal Commission which probed Alberta's natural gas resources six months ago.

According to estimates Alberta's "proven" supply of gas is 426 trillion cu. ft. with a possible 15 trillion cu. ft. in reserve. (Under present calculations if four companies exported gas from Alberta they would use up 5 trillion cu. ft. in 25 years.)

### ROAD LINK

It means that people will be able to drive from Peace River to Yellowknife, cross over to Yellowknife and take their cars with them on the boat or barges.

In addition to passenger service the Yellowknife Co. is also trying for a freight franchise across the lake.

Present plans call for a twice-weekly freight shuttle across to Yellowknife from the end of the highway at Hay River. Reduced freight rates and speedier service would be the result of the scheme.

But the freight license will be held up until the Board of Transport Commissioners holds a series of public meetings on the question.

Opponents to the scheme are rival shipping companies the Northern Transportation Company and the McGinnies Products Corporation Ltd. who claim "there is no further need for additional services."

In the meantime Alberta's domestic use of gas is increasing and is expected to double by 1960 (to 70 billion cu. ft. per year).

### "NO SHORTAGE"

Some U.S. promoters and geologists have claimed that gas reserves can be increased 10 trillion cu. ft. in 10 years or to 3 trillion cu. ft. in the next five years.

But Premier Manning stuck to his guns and said that under present conditions no applications for export of natural gas will be given.

Some oil and gas companies who had their eye on the export market started to grumble when they heard news of the conservation policy.

### "NO ENCOURAGEMENT"

One executive of a company backing West Coast Transmission (which planned to export gas to the west coast) said the policy was "not encouraging to the natural gas industry."

Another geologist claimed that reserves would be increased rather than decreased by export. His reason: exporting would encourage development of isolated fields into producing areas.

Present indications and provincial opinion appeared to back the premier's cautious policy. Most felt that he was making a conscientious attempt to conserve the province's natural resources.

And in the rural areas and small towns people were hoping the premier's policy would not discourage companies from piping gas to the vast and eager market within the province.

### HOSSES MAKE \$300,000 MORE FOR CALGARY

The difference between having a few horses around and not having hardly any horses at all was brought home to Edmontonians last week.

A comparison of attendance at the Calgary Stampede and the Edmonton exhibition shows that the southern city drew nearly four times as many people to its annual fair.

Although Edmonton's exhibition association gleefully reported an all-time record of 192,871 people attending the fair, Calgaya's stampede left the north city way behind in the dust.

A total of 407,954 paid admissions were recorded for the one week of the stampede, 30,971 over last year's attendance.

On the last day of the stampede, 70,840 persons clicked through the gates, while in Edmonton only 36,322 attended on Saturday.

The round-up of attendance figures showed Edmontonians that they need a drawing card because the standard midway, horse races and exhibits.

Only hope for the north city, in the opinion of most citizens, is the Chamber of Commerce air show planned for next summer.

But it would have to go a long way to compete with the lure of Calgary's annual stampede.

## THE CROSSFIELD CHRONICLE

T. W. PUE, Editor and Publisher

MRS. MARGARET VETTER—Local Editor

R. HODD, Madden Correspondent

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## ANSWER TO SCHNORKEL

## Canada's Navy Builds Fast, New Sub-Chasers

Canada's "sheep-dog" navy is going ahead on its own initiative to build up a navy that will be more than a match for its traditional foe—the U.S.A.

With the development of "Schnorkel" apparatus and new improvements to make submarines more lethal, surface craft are more likely to become sitting ducks in a future conflict.

Even World War II destroyers and sub-chasers of various types would have difficulty in overtaking some of the newest underwater craft.

Last week the Canadian navy announced that ships in Halifax, Montreal and North Vancouver would begin construction on three new, sleek, specially-designed sub-chasers.

The RCN has long been subconscious. In two wars the small navy has concentrated on anti-submarine escort vessels to combat undersea vessels mainly in the North Atlantic.

With the development of the convoy system of protection the small, fast escort vessels loaded down with depth charges became increasingly important.

The announcement that Canada is to build a new-type sub-chaser came only a few days after a report from the British Admiralty that the R.N.'s big battleships and capital ships would be sent on "use" for the time-being. The British said they, too, were going to concentrate on the lighter escort vessels as the backbone of the navy.

## \$8 MILLION

Canada's new anti-sub ships will be as big as a small-type destroyer, will cost nearly \$8,000,000 each.

Capable of mass-production, the new sub-chasers will be streamlined with low superstructure and use of aluminum for the hull for some sections.

With a complement of more than 250 men the new ships are expected to have a speed greater than 20 knots (speed of a freighter). Latest acoustic and radar equipment will be installed.

## TWO HITS

Special compartments will be built so that even two torpedo hits will not be able to sink them unless a direct hit is scored on the magazines.

Armament will consist of two turrets equipped with rapid-firing anti-aircraft rifles instead of the traditional deck guns that were useless against aircraft or big ships.

## FIRE FIZZLE AS DOWNPOURS QUENCH FLAMES

Heavy rains over the past two weeks have finally put the dampers on Alberta's northern forest fires. Weary fire-fighting crews have turned from the smoldering timber to douse out the treacherous ground fires.

Before the week-end deluge of July 16, six fires had raged out of control in the north country.

While a hot sun shivered up greenery, flames sprang up in 17 wooded areas and soon six fires were out of control.

An aircraft was pushed into service to drop five drums of gasoline (for pump engines) and 5,000 feet of hose to isolated fire-fighters in the Whitecourt area.

To observers it seemed that Canada has developed the first postwar vessel able to cope with the newest submarines.



—RCN Photo

SUB FOE HMCS "HAIDA"

... For the Navy, a sleek replacement

## Canada Watches Congress Debate On Aid Plan

Canada's military leaders are keeping a close eye on progress of President Harry Truman's billion dollar military aid program through U.S. congress this week.

At top levels, political and military heads are watching how the program would fit in with Canada's obligations under the North Atlantic pact.

And in the under-manned army and air force units, mechanics and maintenance men were looking hopefully for passage of the aid program.

Since the Military Assistance Act lapsed two years ago, Canadian units using U.S. vehicles and tanks have had to rely on broken-down equipment for their spare parts pool.

Armed units using Pershing tanks have had to strip wrecked tanks for spare parts, and RCAF units using American aircraft have been in the same plight.

Until Canada began to develop her own armament and defence industries the armed forces would continue to be dependent on British or U.S. manufacturers for equipment or replacements.

On the west coast the situation was worse and in south-central Vancouver Island 200 acres were burned out.

On the weekend heavy rains moving in from the west coast had effectively squelched all serious blazes and left the way open for mopping up operations.

## Vancouver Okays Sunday Gas Sales

VANCOUVER. — Sixty-three gas stations now operating on a 24-hour basis will be allowed to sell gasoline on Sundays, Mayor Charles Thompson of Vancouver announced recently.

The statement followed a meeting of the mayor with Attorney-General Gordon Wimber, Magistrate Oscar Orr and Judge R. A. Sargent.

Sale of gasoline on Sunday will be restricted to doctors, tourists and others on an emergency basis, within the terms of a judgment handed down in supreme court last week. The judgment was an interpretation of a section of the Lord's Day Act.

The meeting decided, however, that station operators would be called upon to interpret the term "tourist". The city will hand down a definition.

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## OILFIELD LURE

**Labor Glut in City Causes Unemployment**

National Employment Service officials in Edmonton could hardly believe their eyes when they saw the city's jobless statistics for last week.

For the first time in local history unemployment figures had risen for the third consecutive week in July.

Expansion of seasonal activities, such as building, road construction and farming usually absorb a big force of laborers and skilled workers who cannot find steady work during winter months.

But the story of Edmonton's backyard wealth in the oilfields has spread throughout the U.S. and Canada. Result: workers, fleas and all types have flocked here from all over the continent to find work in the new El Dorado.

Many have taken it for granted that jobs will be available here and only a fraction has bothered to contact National Employment Service about job possibilities.

This lack of planning on the part of in-flowing workers plus the fact that the oilfields can't employ them all has resulted in

**NOTHING PHONY ABOUT CITY'S PHONE SHORTAGE**

As business and home-building expanded in the postwar period, the demand for utilities flooded equipment industries that had been stagnant from 1930 to 1939.

Although war orders had put new life into these industries they were still unable to cope with the inflated demand for their goods after the war.

Last week Edmonton's telephone department told the story of the plight of one equipment supply industry.

According to department reports, 5,000 people are awaiting telephones in the city because exchange office equipment is not available.

Equipment that has been on order for four and five years has not been delivered because the industry is facing a six-year backlog in demand. The situation here is typical of most North American cities at the present time, officials said.

And those conditions are showing the growth of a city. Every day 15 or 20 more applications are filed to add to the 5,000 now waiting for phones.

The telephone department had worked hard over the past year to install 5,000 new lines but the bottleneck in central equipment has called a temporary halt.

More than 31,324 telephones are in service in the city now and another 5,000 are already to go at the drop of a hat when the new equipment arrives.

**REFRIGERATION**

Domestic & Commercial  
Locker Storage  
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and Motor Winding

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**Guiders' Training Week Held at 'Tangletrees'**

By Audrey Earl

On the morning of July 21st, I started out for Pigeon Lake, where the Guiders' Training Week was to be held at "Tangletrees," the Girl Guide Camp. The trip from Calgary to Wetaskiwin was uneventful, but from there to the camp was quite another story. There had been continuous rain in this district, and the road crews had been working hard to keep the roads in as long as possible. It took us three and one-half hours to travel over muddy, bumpy back roads to get there. However, this was a perfect opportunity to make friends and swap songs and so arrived in good spirits.

We were met by the Camp Commandant, Miss Reddick, and after introductions we trooped into supper. That night our program for the week was outlined for us, and after a few songs and a light snack we were ready for bed. Because of the rain, every campfire thereafter, and most of the teaching sessions (we averaged three two-hour periods a day) were held in the large dining hall. This hall had a beautiful built-in fireplace and was located in the main building, which also consisted of an office, bedrooms and kitchen. This building was beautifully situated beside a stream and would have to be seen to be fully appreciated. Although there were numerous tents, we all slept in Adirondack shelters because of the rain. A few of the harder ones braved the cold lake waters for a daily swim.

There were Guiders attending from Saskatchewan, Scotland, England and Holland. Our camp nurse had just returned from China, and so we learned first hand about conditions and Guiding in these countries.

The official opening was to have been Sunday, July 24th. This was "Visitors' Day" as well, and a few people vacationing at Ma-Me-O Beach attended and were served tea. A Guide's Own Service was held at a little light outdoor chapel that evening, but a terrific storm blew up and forced us indoors for the campfire. Mrs. Gardiner, our provincial commissioner, was unable to get through from Edmonton. However, she paid us a flying visit on Wednesday, accompanied by photographers and movie cameras for the newspaper. She attended the service, the only campfire held outdoors that night.

The camp was officially opened, and named "Tangletrees." We all received embers from the fire to place on the very next one we attended, so bringing good wishes from this one. An ember was burned from Camp Edith Macy was burned during this ceremony.

In spite of the rain we all had a wonderful time. The meals were excellent, and the work well shared and light. The new material made available provided us with wonderful ideas for our own coming year's programmes. A trainee from the U.S. gave us a fresh interest in the guide work.

We all felt we wanted to get our meetings started as soon as possible at home, so that we could teach all these sparkling new games and songs.

Little known is the fact that a Canadian, Dr. Abraham Geneser of Cornwallis, N.S., discovered keratosene.

Bungalow houses originated in India.

When it is realized that almost one-third of the automobile drivers involved in fatal accidents were guilty of speed violations, the importance of proper driving is evident. Many tragedies might have been

**PROMOTER SQUELCHED****B. C. Plans Rail, Road Links To Tap Alberta Resources**

Alberta's western neighbor, British Columbia, has long sought a chance to siphon off the flow of the north country's Peacock River country.

In the past, most trade with the northland has radiated from Edmonton. Rail, road and air links with the north bring wheat, furs and minerals down to Edmonton where it is shipped to other parts of the globe.

Supplies and machinery for the northland have flowed north from Alberta's capital. This two-way trade has helped keep Edmonton prosperous long before the oil boom of the postwar period.

But the route through Edmonton is essentially a round-about one. A direct rail line or road to west coast ports would cut time and transport costs.

**A BEGINNING**

In 1912 a rail link from the Pacific Coast was started inland from Howe Sound (40 miles north of Vancouver) to Quesnel in the Cariboo Country. The line was not extended further west and remained isolated in the interior.

Another attempt came after World War Two following construction of the Alaska Highway from Dawson Creek north. When tourist possibilities on the highway were realized B.C. decided to take steps to get some of it.

Construction was started on the John Hart highway to link the Alaska road with Prince George and a road to the coast. By this network U.S. tourists could drive north from Vancouver to the coast instead of trying to get through the sometimes impossible mud roads in Alberta, south of Edmonton.

But the John Hart highway was suspended last year when flood conditions in the south resulted in shifting of road equipment to the stricken areas.

The latest bid for a northern railway came last week. Chief engineer of a U.S. rail syndicate the Canada-Alaska Railway Co., W. T. Batcheller, told a meeting of the Alaska, B.C. and Peace River Association of plans to build a billion-dollar rail network in the north.

**A SERIES**

Financed by private capital and (hopefully) by the U.S. government the plan called for a series of railroads through northern B.C., Yukon and Alaska.

Under the scheme the company would (1) take over the 47-mile long Pacific Great Eastern Railway now owned by the B.C. government, (2) build an extension on the PGE to the northern B.C. boundary (cost: \$300,000,000) and (3) build an extension on the extension to Alaska (cost: \$375,000,000).

**A REACTION**

Reaction of B.C.'s re-elected coalition government was quick and to the point.

Speaker Fred Johnson: "The government does not intend that its resources shall be squandered away in providing promotional background for any railway deal."

**NEW \$70,000 GOLF COURSE WILL BE ON RIVER BANK**

Good news for city golfers came from Edmonton's engineering department last week.

A new \$70,000 golf course to be built on the south side of the river, across from the Highlands, will be laid out on "championship" dimensions.

The course will be 6,695 yards, par-71, 18 holes. Built on river flats and hillsides leading to the river, the course will have first rate uphill and downhill planning to make it one of the province's best golf links.

**"MANDY" DELIVERED**

Left photo: While travelling unaccompanied aboard a Trans-Canada Air Lines "North Star" from London, Eng., to Dr. Z. H. Bihanki in Vancouver, the dog named Mandy decided that she liked the country around Goose Bay Labrador. When being picked up on her return to B.C., Mandy slipped her collar and eluded searchers for six days. Mandy was caught when she tripped the alarm system of a house in Tsle and sound, she is seen here at Montreal Airport, securely tied to TCA Stewardess Billie Stewart.

Main objections of the B.C. government to the deal were: (1) the company would be given first option on natural resources. According to promoters the company would spend \$700,000,000 in development of coal, oil and mineral sites. Growler Premier Johnson: "(It) involves alienation of the people's resources."

**AN EXTENSION**

Second objection was a government plan already set up to extend the PGE from its terminus at Quesnel to Prince George, 80 miles away. The government's slow, long-range policy is to expand the railway into the Peace River region to tap Alberta's resources.

"We are proceeding on a sound business basis," affirmed Premier Johnson.

Chief Engineer Batcheller did not say what his company's next move would be following the B.C. government's cold shoulder.

It seemed likely that the company promoters might move to Alberta to stamp on a line from Edson to Fairbanks, Alaska. But as long as the company continued to ask first option on natural resources the granting of a rail link to the north was not likely.

## HASN'T DRIED UP YET

People Are Still Talking  
About the Great Rain

Edmonton citizens sweltering in the hottest weather in four years, looked at weather forecasts on Friday, July 15, and noticed that at last thunder showers and rain were predicted for the week-end.

The three-week long dry spell had hit temperatures of 91 degrees and vegetation was beginning to shrivel in the intense heat.

Saturday morning was cooler with scattered clouds in the sky. Tuesdays over the western horizon began to bank up with big, navy-blue thunder clouds and by noon big drops of rain began to patter down.

Within the next two hours 8,000 tons of water and hail was dumped on the city from the black clouds. With winds at 50-60 miles per hour, rain and hail smashed greenhouse windows, flooded 300 basements and subways, tied up traffic.

Two oilworkers were drowned south of Nisku when their car swept off the road by a flash-flood.

## SEWER BLEW UP

Pressure of water was so great that it caused a sewer 16 feet underground to blow up, in the south side Walterdale area. Debris was thrown 30 to 50 feet as the sewer burst and water flooded nearby homes.

Nearly 200 city workers from utility departments worked frantically to clear up damage while citizens looked mournfully at their flooded basements and began to sop up the water.

Said one citizens to his wife as they watched the water rise to the light bulb in their basement ceiling:

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ALBERTA

RAINS ARRIVE  
TOO LATE TO  
SAVE CROPS

When rains began to pour down from the skies two weeks ago, Albertans took heart that the bleached and parched crops might amount to something after all.

The storm that swept through central and northern Alberta two weeks ago had luckily done little damage to most rural areas. The Edmonton district and isolated areas were the only ones struck by thirds of a normal yield.

The heavy rains in Alberta put new life into the crops but to many farmers it seemed that the moisture had arrived too late.

Immediate result of the downpours over the past two weeks has



"Let's be British about this." So they dressed up in their best clothes, sat down and had dinner.

Water had so deep in one sub-way that it submerged straddled cars, was wide enough to allow two men to paddle around in a canoe.

By four in the afternoon the trolley buses were running again and people were out in their cars to gawk at the \$250,000 estimated damage.

## CLEARED UP

Crews working overtime cleared up debris and drained pools of water and by the middle of the week the damage was mostly cleared up.

A second, lighter downpour on the Thursday flooded 50 more basements and some hail was recorded. But this time the crews were on the alert and the situation was kept under control.

Last week the flood was only something to talk about to most people. But to one eight-member family in the Walterdale district the flood meant disaster.

When the sewer main blew up the low-lying house was right in the way of the overflow, was flooded right up over the main floor.

This week they were living in the Walterdale Community Church and wondering where they were going to find another place to live.

Filmsters Shoot  
Alberta Scenery

A 20-minute color movie called "Alberta Vacation" is being taken as a "come-on" film to be distributed to the U.S. and other parts of Canada.

Taken by the Alberta government's film and photo unit the film will show scenic beauty spots at Jasper, Banff, Waterton and other resorts.

Highlights of the Calgary Stampede and the Edmonton Exhibition will also be shown.

The picture is one of two being made featuring Alberta as a holiday province.

—Central Press Canadian

Arnold Gill, 20, who died in Haliburton hospital after shot-run shooting on street of Tory Hill, Ont.

Saturday Night Row  
Ends in Murder Charge



—Central Press Canadian  
Herman Woodcox, 33, above, of Tory Hill, 15 miles south of Haliburton, Ont., has been held in as a murder charge following shooting in death of Arnold Hill, witness said they were drunk and said Gill fell. It is reported the village could always count on its Saturday night fist fight when the loggers came to town.

Haile Selassie claimed descent from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

been a big improvement in the feed and fodder situation. In Saskatchewan, still without heavy rainfall, even the feed supply is still critical.

But the triangle formed by Calgary, Edmonton and Saskatoon appeared to be a wash-out as far as wheat and grain crops were concerned.

A yield of only 12 bushels per acre is predicted for Alberta on a province-wide basis. In other words the wheat crop will be two-thirds of a normal yield.

The added moisture will only serve to aid crops to fill out properly and prevent further deterioration.

To most Albertans it was evident the rains had come too late.

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## Council Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Council will be held in the

## FIRE HALL

on the

First Monday of each Month  
at 8:30 p.m.

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MISSING ISSUES